

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace original paragraph 31 with the following amended paragraph:

The attachment of sleeve 18 and the formation of separation portions 30 are generally a function of a desired separation characteristic(s). The separation characteristics include, for example, the conditions under which separation portions ~~28-30~~ separate, e.g., when the sleeve portions separate, where sleeve 18 separates along its length, and/or how the separation portions separate, e.g., sequentially or relatively simultaneously. In some embodiments, separation portions 30 separate at a pressure at or below a nominal pressure of balloon 14, or before the ends of sleeve 18 have exceeded the elastic limit of their elongation.

Please replace original paragraph 33 with the following amended paragraph:

Similarly, separation portions 30 are generally formed according to the desired separation characteristic(s). Separation portions 30 can be formed anywhere along the length of sleeve 18, such as over endoprosthesis 16, over body portion 24, over tapered portions 26, over sleeve portions 28, and/or over catheter 12. After separation, sleeve 18 can be longer or shorter than the length of endoprosthesis 16. As with the attachment of sleeve 18, separation portions 30 can be different from each other. For example, one separation portion 30 can be over endoprosthesis 16, while another separation portion is over balloon 14 (Figs. 6A-6E). In certain embodiments, sleeve 18 includes more than two separation portions. For example, the distal end of sleeve 18 can have a series of spaced separation portions 30 configured to separate the distal end of the sleeve sequentially as balloon 14 is inflated. Separation portions 30 can be formed by removing portions of sleeve 18, for example, by mechanically weakening, thinning, perforating, or selectively drilling the sleeve with an excimer laser (Figs. 3A and 3B), or by scribing (Fig. 3C). The amount of sleeve 18 that is removed can determine how easily separation portions 30 separate. In some embodiments, the material used for separation portions 30 can be selected to be relatively weaker than other portions of sleeve 18 to provide preferential separation at the separation portions. As a result, sleeve 18 can be formed with uniform thickness along its

length. Separation portions 30 can be narrow, e.g., a line extending circumferentially around sleeve 18, or relatively wide.

Please add the following new paragraph after original paragraph 25:

Figs. 6A, 6B, 6C, 6D, and 6E are illustrations of an embodiment of a method of using another medical device.